

2017-May-10

Ajit Pai, Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission

Mr. Pai,

I'd like to write in to let you know that network neutrality, held by Title II status, is extremely important to consumers like myself in the USA. The Internet is not a thing but a series of connections, just like a telephone network or a power network. Your new proposals are almost the exact same thing as saying that the electric company can tell you which appliances you may plug in at your home, and also sell information about how you use them. **This would be fine if I could choose from thousands of electric companies to serve my home.** I think you have a fundamental misunderstanding of how an ISP differs from a tech company like The Facebook or Google. I don't have to use Facebook nor Google to communicate with any other person on the network. Giving them the ability to snoop and spy and sell my data is fine, because it's all optional. An ISP is a requirement, they are like your electric meter on the side of your house. Not using them is simply not an option, especially for the folks in rural areas. Schoolwork and job applications all have to be done online. Title II was done for a reason. It protects consumers. I have a thought experiment: What if your electric company started selling refrigerators and suddenly they said they won't let other brands of refrigerator use any of their power coming into your home? Would that be okay and good for the consumer? Because this is almost exactly what you want to do, except with Internet instead of electricity. Obviously, someone with vested interests in these ISPs, that doesn't represent the people, might think this is a good idea, but any sane person who understands what is going on, cannot possibly think removing Title II is a good idea.

Keep Title II protections. Keep the network neutral.

Sincerely,  
Brian Giaraffa